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South Carolina House of Representatives

# Legislative Update

David H. Wilkins, Speaker of the House

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## **HOUSE COMMITTEE ACTION**

### **AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

The full Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Environmental Affairs Committee did not meet this week.

### **EDUCATION AND PUBLIC WORKS**

The full Education and Public Works Committee met this week for organizational purposes. No bills were considered.

### **JUDICIARY**

The full Judiciary Committee did not meet this week.

### **LABOR, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY**

The full Labor, Commerce and Industry Committee did not meet this week.

### **MEDICAL, MILITARY, PUBLIC AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS**

The full Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs Committee did not meet this week.

### **WAYS AND MEANS**

The full Ways and Means Committee met this week to receive and discuss the Bureau of Economic Advisors' (BEA) review of revenues for fiscal year 2001-02 and the BEA's fiscal outlook for 2002-03. Also included on the agenda was a presentation from staff of the Governor's office on the Governor's 2002-03 budget recommendation.

Facing the challenge of possible annualizations totaling over \$375 million (as of December 2001) and a General Fund revenue shortfall which exceeds \$147 million, Ways and Means subcommittees are meeting to develop proposals to present to the full committee next month. The full committee is scheduled to begin hearing

**H.4460 ATTENDANCE OF INSTITUTION OF HIGHER LEARNING BY NATIVES OF COUNTRIES SPONSORING INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM**

**Rep. Townsend**

This bill provides that if a person is not a citizen of the United States and is from a country that is a state sponsor of international terrorism as determined by the United States Secretary of State in consultation with the United States Attorney General under applicable provisions of federal law, he may only attend a private or public institution of higher learning of this State if he possesses a nonimmigrant visa issued by the Department of State after the department has determined that he does not pose a threat to the safety or national security of the United States according to standards developed by the Secretary of State. Compliance with these provisions is the responsibility of each institution of higher learning. The provisions of this bill are contingent on the enactment of federal legislation which requires the United States Secretary of State in conjunction with the United States Attorney General through the immigration process to restrict the admissibility into this country of nonimmigrants from countries that are state sponsors of international terrorism.

**H.4463 EXPENDITURE OF PROCEEDS FROM HIGHWAY DAMAGE CLAIMS**

**Rep. Thompson**

This bill revises provisions regarding the negligent, willful, or wanton damage of a highway or highway-related property by requiring that all proceeds collected from such damage claims filed by a highway authority must be used by the highway authority to repair the damaged property.

**H.4470 INTERFERENCE WITH THE OPERATOR OF A PUBLIC TRANSIT VEHICLE**

**Rep. Cobb-Hunter**

This bill creates the felony of interference with the operator of a public transit vehicle to apply to situations where a person intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causes bodily injury to the operator of a public transit vehicle, or threatens by words or conduct to cause bodily injury to the operator with the intent to terrorize. Penalties are provided and notification of the felony and its consequences is required to be posted on applicable vehicles.

**H.4472 MARITAL AND NONMARITAL PROPERTY**

**Rep. Altman**

This bill revises provisions relating to marital and nonmarital property for purposes of judicial apportionment during marital litigation, so as to include as nonmarital property any property that is neither acquired with marital funds nor titled in the name of one or the other spouse, or both of them. The bill provides that such property must not be: (a) the subject of a marital equitable claim or distribution between the spouses; (b) apportioned temporarily or permanently to either spouse; or (c) transmuted into marital property for any purpose.

**H.4475 MEMBERSHIP RECORDS OF STATE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

**Rep. Harrison**

This bill requires all State boards and commissions to provide prompt written notification of all membership changes to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of



## WAYS AND MEANS

### **H.4457 *TEACHER FUNDS FOR SUPPLIES* Rep. Talley**

This bill appropriates to all certified classroom teachers (from EIA funds) the sum of three hundred fifty dollars to offset expenses incurred by them for teaching supplies and materials.

### **H.4461 *TUITION REFUND FOR RESERVE/NATIONAL GUARD* Rep. McGee**

This bill provides a full refund of quarter or semester college, university, or technical college tuition and fees paid by Armed Forces Reserve or National Guard members who, due to state or national emergency, are called to active duty for over fifteen days.

### **H.4481 *REFUND FOR CERTAIN HIGHER EDUCATION EXPENSES FOR PERSONS IN ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE* Rep. Keegan**

This bill provides that a person activated for full-time military service during a time of national crisis, who is unable to complete and receive a grade in one or more courses, shall receive a complete refund of public institution of higher learning fees and tuition, including proportionate refunds of room, board, and special fees paid to the institution. The bill also requires the institution to provide free tuition to such students who complete courses within a prescribed period after deactivation.

### **H.4484 *COMMISSION TO REVIEW TAXATION AND PUBLIC FINANCE* Rep. Sheheen**

This bill establishes the Commission to Review Taxation and Public Finance in South Carolina (the Commission), and provides for its membership, authority, and duties. The bill also specifies areas which, at a minimum, the Commission should inquire into and make recommendations with respect to. The bill requires the Commission to report its recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly within one year after its first full meeting, upon which time the Commission is dissolved.

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